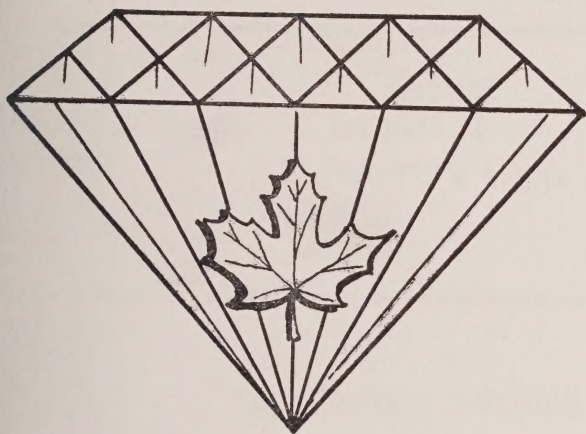


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THE DIAMOND

Founded 1951

Written, edited and managed by the men of COLLIN'S BAY PENITENTIARY with the permission of MAJOR-GENERAL RALPH B. GIBSON CB, CBE, VD, QC, LLD, Commissioner of Penitentiaries and with the sanction of COLONEL VICTOR S.J. RICHMOND, Penitentiary Warden.

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CENSUS

Total Population	458	At Large	1
High Number	5377	Discharged	1
Low Number	3646	By Expiry	1
Transfers	1	By Parole	
		Deaths	

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TO OUR READERS:

Last month we promised to put a little humor into our publication and this issue is our attempt at it. The "As We See It" page is only partly facetious but there should be at least a smile on it for you. The "Humor in Prison Uniform" feature serves two purposes: It gives the outside reader an insight into some aspects of prison life, and it also provides us with a few laughs at ourselves.

Mr. Frank Howard (CCF-Skeena) M.P., sent our office a copy of the debates and speeches in the House of Commons concerning penitentiaries and the Department of Justice in general. The members discussed many aspects of prisons including visits, writing privileges, solitary confinement and a host of other things. The questions and answers caused quite a stir among the Diamond staff and produced cries of "It ain't so." Careful study of the text showed that the men in the house are masters of the ambiguous phrase and did not really commit themselves to a definite answer. The upshot of our discussion was that HEWITT was moved to write the poem entitled "Time For Truth", which appears on the centre-fold of this issue.

The two fiction stories, Mantle's a Bum and The Alternative are supposed to be entertaining. We freely admit we are not Hemmingways but we try anyway. The "Interview on Parole" will be of more interest to inmates and their relatives than anyone else, but inmates are really interested in that subject.

Our Prisoner Potential feature has been given a lot of publicity lately and we are hopeful that we will have more success with it in the future. The CBC news carried it as a news item one night and several newspapers have mentioned it. For all this we are grateful, but we would have been even more thankful if they had mentioned that the C.B. Diamond was available to the public and told them how to get it. We figured that we would get a few bucks even if only out of curiosity. I mean, for a measly buck and a two cent stamp you could have made us much happier.

Actually, we do need subscriptions; almost desperately. It would certainly help if our readers would pass along the word to friends and acquaintances, provided that you think the magazine is a dollar's worth of entertainment and information. We are forbidden to advertise so there is not much we can do to boost our circulation except mail complimentary copies and hope that some newspaper columnist or radio personality will give us a plug now and again. It does happen, so we keep hoping.

We hope this type of magazine finds a welcome in your home or office because this is the way it is going to be from now on. If you want to comment or criticize, please drop a line to:

The Editor, C.B. Diamond,
Box 190, Kingston, Ontario.

Collin's Bay **DIAMOND**

September 1959

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"PAROLE;

The Effect on Future Sentences"

I was reading the Toronto Globe and Mail of May 18th, with my usual casual glances at the headings, when when my eye was caught by the heading about a convention of Ontario's magistrates.

Of course I read this item thoroughly because it concerned me, as a prisoner. I was glad to note that Mr. George Street, chairman of the Federal Parole Board and himself a former magistrate, had addressed the convention and on a very important aspect of parole. I have extracted the paragraphs concerning Mr. Street's remarks and quoted them below.

"Canada's system of parole for criminals is primarily a rehabilitation system rather than a scheme for extending clemency," George Street, chairman of the Federal parole board, told the convention.

He urged the magistrates not to hand down sentences with the idea in mind that the sentence would be cut short by parole granted by the board,

"Parole is not a process designed to shorten sentences. It has that effect, but courts must keep in mind the fact that the paroled prisoner is serving his full time, though part of it is outside the prison under supervision," Mr. Street said.

Mr. Street has brought up something that has caused some discussion among the prison inmates of Canada. At the present time a sentence of 12 to 20

years is considered very severe (it is!), but if judges and magistrates feel that a parole system will let these men out too soon, they may start handing out 30 to 40 year sentences. This type of sentencing would almost nullify any benefits a parole system could produce for society. The *very* long sentences, 25 years and up, are reasonably rare in Canada at the present time, but if the courts start handing out 30 year sentences, it will not be long before 20 to 25 years is considered the norm.

The sentencing judge or magistrate must come within the limits of the criminal code when sentencing an offender, but a great number of crimes call for a maximum of life imprisonment, therefore, the court can sentence the offender to any number of years. A man convicted of the armed robbery of a drug store could get 40 years and so could the thief who enters your home while you are asleep at night. Both offenses call for life as a maximum.

The court would almost certainly not oppose such harsh sentences on first offenders, but every now and then some man would come before the courts on a serious charge and with a record. I can almost hear the judge telling the man he is an "example" as he hands out 30 years. This would be the start. Each year there would be a few more such cases until the criterion for sentencing went up, and up. Then a city could have a "Crime Wave" and in the midst

of it some unfortunates would receive sentences that Methusala couldn't have served.

The learned judges and magistrates should keep in mind that the Federal Parole Board is not going to turn criminals loose on a wholesale basis. The board will screen a man carefully before he is granted parole and those who are not deemed good rehabilitative risks will most certainly be kept inside the walls. There will be parole violators and some of them may be headline news. Expect this. No system is going to work on one-hundred per cent of the prisoners and the parole board is not going to be right about every parolee. If the newspapers and the general public react in the same manner as they did in the Red Ryan case, Canada's penal system will be given another setback.

Parole is a method whereby society may keep tabs on the ex-convict after his release. The police will know where the man is living, whether or not he is working, and who his associates are. You, the citizen, may rest assured the ex-con will be back in prison very shortly if he does not fulfill the conditions of his parole.

Thousands of prisoners can benefit from parole and Canada can benefit by saving thousands of dollars spent on confining these men in prisons. It is a two-way street and if those fortunate enough to be paroled will do their part, I am sure society will come half-way to meet them. However, if the failures are held up as examples of the system, the courts can undo all the good the Federal Parole Board may do.

PRISON CELL

by:—*P. Crosby*

- P is for punishment in a jail.
R means that right will always prevail.
I is insane; so most people say.
S means the sins we've done this day.
O means its over and we're to blame.
N is the number we have for a name.

C is the crime that we have done.
E means the enemies we have become.
L is the loved ones that we have failed.
L means a lock on a prison cell.

HUMOUR IN PRISON

UNIFORM

Our radio operator had been receiving a lot of requests for classical music and he finally decided that there was enough demand to warrant forty minutes a week. His announcement that this would be the policy in the future was met with a barrage of "kites" and the following note is the one we considered the best:

What's with this culture kick? On one channel you have classical music and on the other you have a French program. Whom do you plan to have in for the stage shows next year? Celia Franca and the National Ballet? How about an hour of the Coldstream Guards, followed by that psalm singer with the guitar on station ZYZZY, and on channel two, the campaign speeches of the new Hawaiin Senators; in their native language, of course!

At the risk of sounding uncouth, I would like to request "Purple Shades" by Joni James on your next request night.

The Uncultured Janitor,
Red Reaburn.

One of the more annoying rules we have in prison is that when we are working during the day we are not allowed to smoke, with the exception of two ten minute periods, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. As a result, most inmates are anxiously watching the clock as the time draws near and in order to get the full benefit of this smoke period they usually start rolling their cigarettes a few minutes early.

One inmate in the laundry was observed carefully rolling his long awaited cigarette and eyeing the clock with a rather vacant stare. The siren used to signal "smoke up" sounded at precisely the same moment the inmate finished rolling his cigarette and with a smile of pleasure on his face he walked over to the water fountain, put the smoke in his mouth and bent over to get a drink. (And then he was mad because the water didn't light his cigarette!) Boy, is he in a fog!

If any of our inside readers have heard or seen anything that would be appropriate material for this column, then let us know by dropping a kite in the Diamond box. If possible, we would like to make this column a monthly feature.

FICTION

MANTLE'S

A

BUM



"Hey Chawley. What's on the programme for this afternoon? You want we should donate a few of these hard oined sheckles to the underprivileged nags out at Belmont, or should we be thrifty like and use these ducats our bossom pal Al de Mooch presented us with to see the ball game with. Yeah, like I mean Chawley, a ball game is better."

"Entirely up to you, Orville. A bet with the book I can always make. Flip a peso, Orve. Heads we watch the bang-tails."

The coin was tossed and when it came up tails a look of pure disgust came over Charley's face. Naturally, he had wanted to go to the races. "So who's playin' ball?" he queried.

"Don't you know nuthin' but horses? If you aren't interested in the more important things in life you may as well have been a street cleaner or sumpin'. The Yankees and Dee-troit are playin' and it is a crucial game

for Casey and his boys."

"Awright! So let's go. I hate that Mickey Mantle so I will enjoy watching him swish out at the plate. I don't dig the way you praise this guy, Orve. He's nowhere and he's taking the Yanks down with him."

All the way to Yankee Stadium, Charley was running down the Mick and Orve was defending him. The upshot of the argument was that Charley makes a sawbuck bet with Ore that Mantle does not get a hit when it will help the team. "That Mantle cannot come through in the clutch and I got a sawbuck here to back me up. Bet? Right, easier than the horses because I got a sure thing."

Our two operators arrive at the park in the second inning and Dee-troit is already leading 3 to 0. In the last half of the third Mantle hits a two out double with the bases empty and Orve gives Charley the eye as if to say "I told you so." The next batter pops

out and it is still 3-0.

"See," says Charley, "only hits when it doesn't count."

The game progressed with no change in the score and the next time Mantle comes up there are two Yankees on base, 1st and 3rd, with only one out Orve gets all excited and gives Charley a nudge, "Give up the sawbuck, Charley, this is where we ties the game up. Want to press the bet?"

"The bum'll strike out," Charley answered weakly, but he made no offer to press the bet.

The count on the Mick goes to 3 balls and 1 strike and Orve can hardly contain himself he is so excited in anticipation of the game-tying-homer. The pitcher throws and Mantle grounds into an easy double play. At this Orve's mouth drops open in astonishment and Charley gives him a hefty slap on the back along with a big horse laugh. The combination of the open mouth and the back-slap causes Orve's false teeth to pop out and where do they go but down the neck of an old dame who is sitting in front of him.

The pandemonium that ensued was only brought to a halt by the arrival of two ushers. Orve tried to explain but what with Charley howling with laughter and all it was no use. The lady fixes him with a deep-freeze look and the ushers proceed to escort him from the ball park.

At this point Charley recovers and explains the situation to the ushers again, adding that Orve is an ardent Yankee fan. The ushers relented but insisted that the two move to other seats.

As they settled into their new seats, located in the centrefield bleachers, Charley was still adding fuel to the fire by knocking the Mick and saying

how he had let Orve down. Orve was doing a fast burn but what could he reply. Mantle *had* let him down.

The game progressed to the 9th inning with no change in the score and very little excitement. Frank Lary, the Yankee killer, seemed to have the situation well in hand as he rationed out the hits only when the bases were empty. In the bottom of the 9th the lead-off man for the Yanks beat out an infield hit and was safe at first. The next batter grounded to second but it was a slow roller and the Tiger's only got the force at second. Stengel pinch-hit for his pitcher and Country Slaughter came through with a single. The fans came alive as the tying run came to the plate in the person of Yogi Berra, the man who is known as the best clutch hitter on a team of champions. Yogi did not keep the fans in suspense long as he teed-off on the first pitch and popped it into the air. Two out now and Gil McDougal steps into the batter's box.

Noting that Mantle was in the on deck circle, Charley turns to Orve and says, "If you want to see the Yanks pull this one out you should pray that Gil hits the long ball because the bum is up next."

Orve has learned that it is safer to keep his mouth shut (He got his teeth back.) so he let's this pass without comment.

McDougal lets the pitcher get ahead of him two strikes and no balls. Lary then tries to get him to hit a bad pitch and comes in with a slow curve that fails to break over the plate. McDougal is an old pro and he lets the pitch hit him, so he goes to first. This places the burden squarely on the shoulders of Charley's bum, Mickey Mantle.

"Hey, Orve. We may as well leave now. We saw this part of the show before," Charley chided.

"You'll get the sawbuck if it happens again so shutup and watch," is the irritated reply.

"But just look at that bum standing up there. He couldn't hit a bull in the eye with a banjo," Charley continued.

"Will you shutup Chawley?" demanded Orve.

Mantle steps into the box and waits for Lary to deliver. This being a big out for Lary, what with a shutout and all at stake, he understandably takes his time. Mantle is also a little on the anxious side and does not like this. He steps out of the box again.

"The bum is afraid to stay in there. He's a . . ." At a very meaningful look from Orve, Charley decides to comply with his previous request to shut up.

Mantle is now waiting for Lary's delivery again. Lary takes a full wind-up and throws in a blazing fast ball. Mantle swings and creams the pitch. The ball comes out to the centre field bleachers so fast it could have gone into orbit if it had been hit a little higher.

There is a mad scramble for the ball among the fans and Charley can be seen climbing all over people and reaching for it. He comes up with the ball and shows it to Orve while

shouting for all to hear, "I got a ball hit by Mantle! How about that! A ball hit by the great Mickey Mantle!"

Just then two ushers appeared on the scene and collared Charley. "We want that ball to give to Mick," they informed him.

"Over my dead body," defied Charley. "Orve! Come over here and help me hold these guys off."

"Take it easy Chawley. That happens to be the 300th homer that the guy you have been calling a bum all afternoon has hit. He probably wants the ball as a souvenir."

"But I want it too. After all it was a game-winning homer and I caught it," complained Charley.

"We will take you down to the clubhouse to meet Mantle and give him the ball personally if you want," one of the ushers said.

"Me meet Mantle? Man, what a day this has been. I get in to see a ball game for free and then I get to meet the greatest ball player in the world. And all for free!"

"What kind of free, Chawley? Come up with that sawbuck you lost to me," demanded Orve.

"What do you mean Orvey, old buddy? You ain't going to spoil my perfect day are yuh?"

"I'm not spoiling anything. What do you want for ten bucks? A trip around the world?" replied Orve as he stuck out his hand.

FOR HER

You're the only one, sweetheart,
And that you will always be!
Never again, will we ever part,
As you mean everything to me.

Or the tender words you say!
Maybe it's the things you do,
All that matters is I love you
Just for your own dear way.

Gord. Dade.



RED CROSS BLOOD CLINIC

On Thursday, July 30th, the Red Cross Blood Clinic came to Collin's Bay Pen and left with 283 pints of our blood. This represents about 62% of our population, so it was a pretty good turnout. I am not sure if this was due to a surge of public spiritedness or whether the fellows just wanted to see what a girl looked like. As you can see by the cut above, the nurses are definitely part of the attraction.

The men in here are always glad to see the Red Cross arrive as it means a change in the routine for a day and also a change of faces. The faces around here are not much to look at and after a few years they seem even worse. Some of the tough guys were observed flinching mightily at the touch of the needle and some of the meek little types took it without a quiver. You can never tell. Thompson should be given a special medal for letting the nurse stab him three times before she succeeded in getting any

sign of blood. Bourette gave his blood very grudgingly. Drop by drop; it took him three times as long to fill the bottle as anyone else, but then that is the way he works too.

The day was not without its touch of mystery. Ten pounds of sugar were missed and, the place being full of thieves, it was suspected someone had stolen it. Inspector Nicholson, of the local gendarmie, took charge of the investigation and after many suspicious glances he sent men scurrying here and there in what he obviously thought was a futile search. The inspector was rewarded with success however, when it was reported later that the sugar was found over in Kingston Pen, four miles away. This won us an acquittal.

The nurses and Red Cross girls were real workers. It was one of those hot, muggy days and most inmates were glad of the chance to sit down, but the girls were always busy. One girl, she couldn't have weighed a hundred pounds, outworked everybody. When it

came time to load the beds, mattresses, etc, back in the trucks she slung the heavy stuff around like Yukon Eric handling a midget.

Well, the Red Cross got their blood and we did our duty, so it was a good day for all.

HEWITT GIVES

The other day my blood I gave;
It took some nerve to do it
And on the jug the nurse did print,
"Compliments of Hewitt."

Opinions pass, I think I've heard,
"That man is just a dud;
There's nothing we can do for him
'Cause theiving's in his blood."

Now since that day, it's true to say,
My mind's been in confusion.
Will a theif be born because of me?
From the blood of my transfusion?



Then there was the guy who filled one of the forms we use for inmates who want to try for a job through our Prisoner Potential feature:

No..	<i>blank</i>	Name..	<i>Elmer Snodgrass</i>	..Marital Status..	<i>Polygamous</i>
Education	<i>B.A., Ph.D.</i>	Employment	<i>Prison Guard</i>	How Long?	<i>Too Long!</i>
Have taken any courses while here?	<i>Many</i>	Did you finish it?	<i>Why not?</i>		
Would like employment as	<i>Masseur</i>	<i>Y.W.C.A</i>	What area?	<i>Bali-Bali</i>	



Sports at The Bay

National League:

The final weekend of our schedule has come and gone and after the smoke had cleared they showed up in this order: Cubs, Braves, Dodgers and Pirates.

It was not decided until the final weekend who would end up in the playoffs, so we must have had a pretty well balanced league. Some of the players were exceptional all year and Kanary, the catcher for the Braves, is a key player for that team and if he could control his temper he would be an outstanding player in any league. Honeyman an Preston, with their fine fielding and hitting, had much to do with their team ending up in second place. La Forge and Dumas kept the Dodgers in contention with their consistent effort all year. The two outstanding players for the Pirates were Sam Dunbar and Red Reaburn and an honourable mention should go to Gord Dade who won

them their first four games. Last but not least we come to Eddy Judge who's all out hustle at shortstop, combined with the ever steady playing of Simmons behind the plate, had a lot to do with this club winning the championship.

From a spectator's point of view, the whole ball season was a success with one puzzling exception. Joe R. was walking around mumbling, "I've got the message." Does that mean there was a fix?

The awards for the most valuable player and the rookie of the year have just been chosen and I might add they were unanimous. The rookie award went to Beechner and he really deserves it. His all-round play, both at the plate and in the field were a real pleasure to watch. The "Most Valuable Player" was Marve H., who is unsurpassed as a player and is also a manager of no mean ability. His managerial talents were proven when he took a team that was nothing and built it into a club that reached second place in a driving finish.

We extend our congratulations to both of these men in winning their respective awards and wish them both the best of luck in the playoffs.

American League:

This league also came to a whirlwind finish and the fast coming Red Sox did what they had been threatening to do all year: They moved into first place and stayed there. The Indians, who ended up in last place, had two more games to play against the Red Sox and they conceded them. The second place Yanks were a little shook up over this but, finally realizing it wouldn't have made any difference, they bowed to the inevitable.

The 3rd place team was the Tigers and they now threaten to roar right through the other teams in the playoffs. Though not as evenly balanced as the National League, the teams in this circuit could and did put on some rare shows this past summer. The power-packed Red Sox, with their good pitching staff, should make it interesting all the way. The standout players on this team are Woodcliffe (pitcher) and Cormier (1st base). Cormier, by the way, is the first man to hit the ball

over the wall this year. The wall is about 20 feet high and over 240 feet from home plate so you can imagine the power he packs to be able to hit it that far.

For the Yanks, McLean sparkled on second and Humphries also is a fine catcher. Desnoyers, of the Tigers, was in the National League at the start of the season and he now seems to have found himself and is playing great ball. Nicholas, who alternates at short and second base, is a real threat at the plate and if he would play the ball instead of letting it play him, he would be a much better fielder. Renaud pitches for the Indians and is a real standout. At this writing the Cubs of the Nat. League have persuaded this southpaw to pack his bags and move to join them. Bondy, the catcher for the Indians, is another fine player and should end up in the National League next year. To stay.

The team standings and the league statistics up to the playoffs follow:

American League Statistics:

Team	Won	Lost	Tied	Pts	Desnoyers	Tigers	37	15	2
Red Sox	16	7	1	33	Bondy	Indians	42	16	4
Yanks	14	9	1	29	Moreland	Indians	40	15	2
Tigers	10	11	3	23	3B	HR	RBI	Avg	
Indians	6	17	1	13	0	2	16	.492	
Top Ten Batters:					1	1	10	.484	
Name	Team	AB	H	2B	1	2	21	.483	
Nicholas	Tigers	61	30	3	4	1	28	.463	
Dominick	Tigers	62	30	2	3	4	30	.430	
Petrula	Red Sox	58	28	7	1	0	20	.422	
Irwin	Yanks	67	31	5	0	1	8	.418	
Palmer	Red Sox	49	21	2	1	0	13	.405	
Allen	Red Sox	45	19	10	2	3	8	.381	
Novak	Yanks	55	23	4	2	2	8	.375	

ALL STAR GAMES AUGUST NINTH

This Sunday a team composed of the Kingston All Stars came inside to play our prison All Star team, The Sinners. This game was looked upon as another massacre of our Sinners by everyone but a few die-hards. Weston, the Sinner's manager, did some shrewd manipulating of his line-up and fielded a team that was terrific both at bat and on the field. The final score was 9-6 in favour of the Sinners.

Hardy, the pitcher for the Kingston City All Stars, should have enjoyed better success that he did, what with his dazzling wind-up and his beautiful change of pace. However, the lack of good defensive play in the outfield betrayed him and he lost a game which could have gone either way. The outstanding players for the Sinners were

Clarke, with his steady pitching and Judge for his fielding and hitting ability.

The afternoon was highlighted by a little speech given by Mr. Langabeer of the O. A. S. A. of Kingston. Mr. Langabeer assured us that anytime he could be of any assistance in securing teams to come in and play the Sinners, he would certainly do so. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Langabeer, the Kingston City All Stars, and all the players and teams that have participated in games here this summer and made this season an enjoyable one for us. We would also like to thank Mr. Edmunds, our Sports Direcør, for making the many arrangements necessary for having these All Star games.

National League Statistics:

Team	Plyd	WON	LOST	TIED	R.F.	R.A.	Pts
Cubs	24	14	10	0	166	153	28
Braves	24	12	12	0	174	161	24
Dodgers	24	11	12	1	147	178	23
Pirates	24	10	13	1	142	136	21

Top Ten Batters

Name	Team	A.B.	R.	H.	R.B.I.	D.	T.	H.R.	Avg.
Marve H.	Braves	65	27	27	33	10	1	5	.416
Beechner	Cubs	80	25	31	17	4	1	0	.388
Bedard	Cubs	69	23	23	22	10	3	3	.333
Bruneau	Dodgers	56	12	18	16	1	0	2	.321
F. Smith	Dodgers	78	18	24	18	6	0	1	.308
Racburn	Pirates	73	18	21	15	3	0	1	.288
Dunbar	Pirates	73	13	21	19	5	1	2	.288
Weir	Dodgers	59	19	17	15	2	0	1	.288
Judge	Cubs	77	25	22	22	5	0	3	.286
Kanary	Braves	74	19	21	19	3	0	3	.284

BARRED BARDS

NIGHT WINDS

Thought the darkness came a call;
T'was the wind against the wall.
Still, I listened and I seemed to hear it say—
Dear I miss you. Please come back;
Hurry home—the night so black;
I've every thing it's only you I lack—
Though it's the wind against the wall
From my eyes the tear drops fall,
And from my lonely heart is wrung this plea:
Dear I love you. Wait for me;
It won't be long, please wait and see.
But, not a word in answer **do I hear**.
No! Just the wind against the wall,
Not a longed for Lover's Call.
Still, I say, I hope and pray she waits for me.

G.K.C.

THE END OF THE ROAD

The way is long,
The night is dark,
But I don't mind
Because the happy lark
Will be singing,
At the end of the road!
I can't go wrong,
I must go right;
I'll find my way—
Because that guiding light
Will be shining,
At the end of the road!
There may be thorns
In my path, but I will wear a smile
Because in a little while
My path will be roses, sweet roses.
The rain may fall from up above,
But I don't mind because the one
I love will be waiting
At the end of the road!!!

R. C. Gourley

A SPECIAL LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I believe your DIAMOND has a far greater influence on people in all walks of life and of all ages than you realize.

Not long ago, I was called in to council a young lad in regard to his personal behaviour. I quoted information from the DIAMOND to show him the thoughts and ideas expressed by you and your staff.

I am pleased to tell you that it brought him up with a jolt. Sure, his parents, friends, and teachers all had told him the same things—but reading your articles made these same things real.

If your messages can get even one confused boy, with ears assaulted by the twisted ideologies of the world, to think through to the truth . . . if they can make him know he can be paid in this world only out of what he produces for the world . . . that he can go as far and as fast as his abilities and willingness to work will let him, but that no one can ever give him something for long which he does not earn . . . that both the lust for power and the surrender to power are admissions of weakness . . . that prosperity and peace and satisfaction come only from honest co-operation . . . and finally, any misunderstanding can be cured by honest efforts . . . if you can, by your articles published in the DIAMOND, set just one boy straight in his thinking, you will have accomplished one of the finest things possible in this world.

Please renew my subscription for the year and accept my congratulations on a fine publication.

Yours truly,
C. B. Moncrieff,
Superintendent,
Ford of Canada Trade School.

(Editor's Comment: The staff were very pleased by your letter, sir, and the fact that we helped to straighten out one boy is indeed encouraging. If there were more men like yourself to take an interest in these boys who get into trouble it would probably mean a few empty cells around here. The congratulations should go to you.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR EX-CONVICTS

The federal government recently announced that it was considering a plan whereby convicts being released from Canada's prisons would be made eligible to receive unemployment insurance.

This plan was proposed as a solution to the recognized need for financial aid to the released inmate, who is sorely pressed if he must make do with only his gratuity from the prison. A released man must have enough money to feed, clothe and house himself until he receives his first paycheck, or society is inviting him to return to prison. If a man leaving a penitentiary is fortunate enough to secure a job the day after his release he has a chance to make his gratuity last, provided he served four years or more. A man serving two years leaves the penitentiary with less than \$15.00 and only one prison suit. This is not enough to give a man a decent chance.

The special placement service of the Unemployment Insurance Commission has been of great assistance to the inmates in finding them jobs on their release, but when unemployment is high it is next to impossible to place an ex-con. It is only *natural* for an employer to be reluctant to take a chance on an ex-con when he has a choice of men without police records. *

The government has been seeking a way to give the ex-convict a decent chance to make good and part of the answer has been found in the proposal to provide unemployment insurance for him. I am informed that the Un-

employment Insurance Commission has accumulated a large sum of money over the years and I am sure they would not miss the amount needed to implement this plan. However, I am equally sure, that if the government announced they were going to give every inmate \$100.00 on his release, the public outcry would be long and loud.

"Why tax us for them?" "There will be waiting lists to get in!" The last is far-fetched but so are a lot of other remarks about ex-cons. The first point is well taken and I am forced to agree with the citizen who thinks this way. It is equally unfair for you to be taxed so \$1,200.00 a year can be spent in keeping me here. You resent the tax and I resent being here, but that is our system and both of us are stuck with it.

The proposal to provide unemployment insurance has another advantage over the \$100.00 method. Most inmates, if given the lump sum would proceed to spend the bulk of it frivolously as soon as the tempting displays, the bright lights, and the girls came into view. (After all, they have been locked up.) The system used by the Unemployment Insurance Commission for paying benefits insures a man enough money to keep body and soul together and at the same time it keeps the man available for work. If the man shows a reluctance to accept a job that has been offered he can then be cut off from his unemployment insurance benefits. The plan would benefit those who were sincere in their desire to find work and

also expose those who are living as parasites. The so-called "professional criminal" would have no part of this charity anyway. "Professional" ethics, you know!

I like the proposal in general but I find it has one deep flaw: *It is to used only for men serving two years or less.* The man serving more than two years is in far greater need of financial aid than his more fortunate companions. A long sentence in prison is almost certain to use all the inmate's personal funds, to cause him to lose contact with friends and, sometimes, even his family. In the penitentiary we are allowed only four letters and a one-half hour visit per month; close relatives only for both correspondence and visits. It is the long term prisoner who is ten or fifteen years behind the times in his concept of dollar values. In 1946 a ten-dollar bill bought considerably more than it does to-day.

To enumerate all the reasons why the man with a long sentence needs the financial aid would require another page and I am sure the reader would be bored, however, I think the reader will concede that the long term prisoner is even worse off than the man with less than two years. The reason behind the two year limit has something to do with the regulations governing the unemployment payments. It is rather complicated, at least to me, but somehow convicts would fall into the same category as people who have been sick. (There may be some justification for that too!)

If the federal government would carry this plan just one step further it would be a great improvement. The men with two years or less will be grateful now, but to the men with more time, it will be just another reason for bitterness.



* AUTHOR'S NOTE: *I say it is "natural" because I recognize the right of the individual to have his prejudices. Some segments of the public believe that most criminals are some sort of predatory animal, always looking for an opportunity to inflict financial or physical injury. The working man is more aware of the physical violence and the businessman is more concerned with the financial end of the crime.*

Both of these groups are willing to concede that there may be a few convicts who are a little higher on the evolutionary ladder and who therefore adhere to some of the social customs of society. Actually, the reverse is true.

There are a few men in prison who have absolutely no respect for life or property, but 95% of the convicts are motivated by the same desires, hates, and loyalties, as you, the public. It might be very surprising to know how many of your acquaintances have had their names on a police blotter. One does not brag about this so you will never know.

TIMOTHY AND ALF

Timothy and Alf
 Were buried in the ground.
 With not a soul to search for them,
 They uttered not a sound.
 They lie together side by side;
 They'd never met before,
 Praying for the sunshine
 And for the rain to pour.
 To feel the rain, the wind, the sun,
 Is all they wanted now;
 To feel the earth turned over
 By some gigantic plow.
 They knew unless this happened,
 'Twas sure to be the end,
 And there was no joy in dying
 Beside a new-found friend.
 They cursed the hand that buried them
 In the ground so deep,
 For 'twas certain now 'twas nothing,
 But deep eternal sleep.
 Luck, 'twas plain, had left them
 And side by side they died,
 And not a soul had missed them
 And not a soul had cried.
 But it matters not, the masters
 Of these gruesome deeds,
 For Timothy and Alfalfa
 Were just a couple of seeds.

THE EGG

Atop the wall
 I saw an egg.
 "How come it be
 Up there?"
 "'Tis easy", said my
 Red-haired friend.
 "A bird has laid
 It there."
 "Not true, not true,
 It cannot be.
 What kind of bird
 Is this;

"To lay an egg
 Atop the wall
 Of such a place
 As this."
 "I do not know,
 I cannot say,"
 My red-haired friend
 replied.
 "But maybe 'twas a
 Female bird,
 Who to her family
 Lied."

TIME FOR TRUTH

To Minister of Justice Fulton,
If you have a moment to spare
I should like to bring to your attention
That all's not well out there.
For some unknown reason the facts
They've been misconstrued.
For prisons are not places where a man
Can act the dude.
We hear they think we're happy,
With nothing else to do
But sit around and plot and plan,
And remember girls we new.
They write it in their papers,
That things are soft and sweet.
Who they're trying to convince, we know,
Is the fellow in the street.
They write of letters and visits;
That a man may kiss his wife.
I've never heard a bigger lie
In all my years of life.
They say that television
Is flourishing in here.
Surely they must be dreaming;
Dreaming in their beer.
They also think we're over-fed
And getting much too fat.
Now who in hell has given them
An idea such as that?
In summertime we play baseball;
I'd like to jump for joy,
The only problem being
That I'm no more a boy.
In winter-time it's movies,
Yeah—like grandpa used to see.
At night I dream of Mr. Fields
Saying, "Come my Chick-a-dee."
So, Minister of Justice Fulton,
It should be plain to see
That truth be told—just once in awhile
About guys in here—like me.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES

The Vocational Training courses will be starting up again next month. The courses offered to the men at Collin's Bay are: Machine Shop, Electricians, Mason & Bricklaying, Plumbers, Carpenters, Sheet Metal, Motor Mechanics, Barbering and Welding.

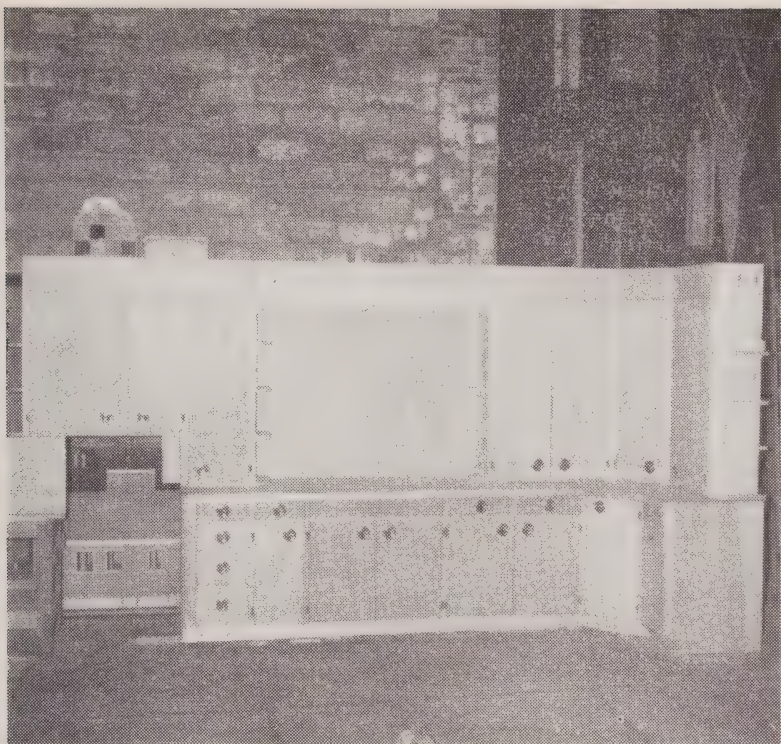
It would be impossible to go into detail on each course here so this article will give only a general outline of the training program, with special mention of the welding course which has been added this year. Mr. Taylor, the Chief Vocational Officer, talked to me at length about the Vocational Training programme and facilities the other day and this article will be based on the information I garnered from him plus my own observations.

There have been some new buildings added this year and this allowed the the Plumbers and Sheet Metal shops to move from their cramped quarters to shops that are more suited to their needs. There are still some buildings under construction and it is hoped that the training program can be expanded in the future. There will be over 100 men on full time training when the courses are under way in October; 100 men who are interested in bettering themselves and who are willing to knuckle down and put out the extra effort that Vocational Training requires. At the present time not all the courses are recognized by the trade unions outside, but the institution is working toward greater recognition and

it should not be too long before many of the men on the courses can leave Collin's Bay with a license such as the barbers and the motor mechanics now receive. Provided they pass the course, naturally.

These courses have been in operation for 11 years now and their worth can readily be seen if one compares the figure of 70% who stay out after they have taken the course with the 65% of repeaters from other institutions that do not offer training. It stands to reason that if a man is to stay out of jail he must be able to earn an honest living, and if he does not have some skill he is going to have a very tough time finding employment. It is tough enough for an ex-con to get work without the additional handicap of not knowing any trade well enough to compete with the man in the street.

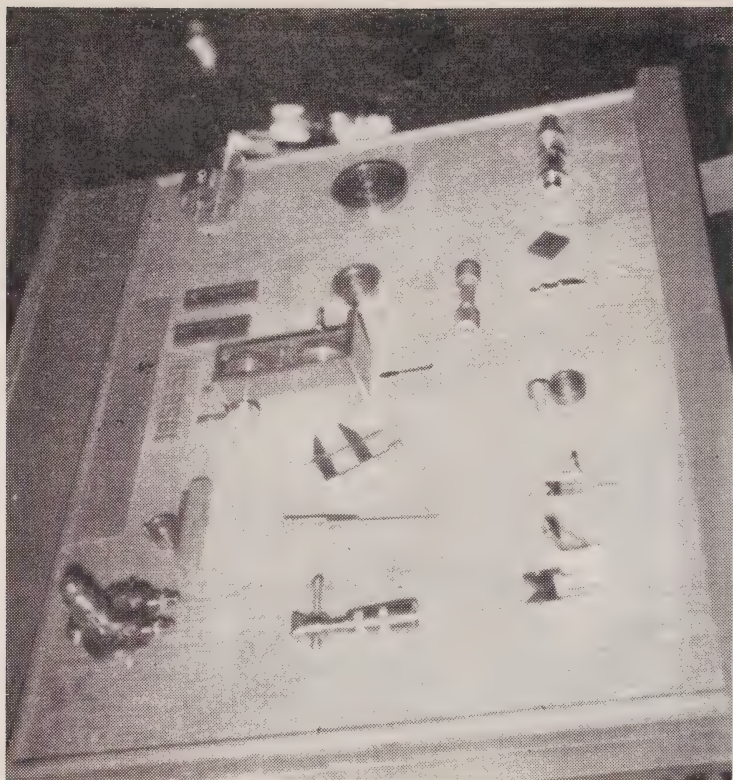
The full time training given here is quite expensive for the government and therefore the men who go on the courses are carefully screened in order to avoid wasting the time and money on those men who are not really interested in a trade. In this regard, the Treatment Team has often been fooled by a man whom they were not sure was serious and who later turned out to be one of the best men on the course and left the institution never to return. Human nature being what it is, the Treatment Team would have to be made up of clairvoyants to be right 100% of the



ne. The man who takes a course
re could be able to compete with his
underpart on the street after his re-
ase. Because of the theory and class-
om work as well as the practical
op work, a trainee should know more
out the trade than a man who has
en serving as an apprentice for an
ual length of time on the street. The
ajor drawback to institutional train-
g is that the men in here only work
six hour day and therefore they have
adjust to the working hours expect-
of them when they are released.
he thing that you don't find in the
ecational shops is malingering. The
en on course do their work as fast
ed as well as they possibly can. The

outside reader may think that this is
only natural but in most prisons the
inmates will do more work just trying
to get out of doing their assigned tasks
than the tasks would require of them.
This is not to say that the men in the
shops here do not enjoy a holiday, but
when they have a job to do they like
to finish it as soon as possible. To
really understand why this attitude is
different you would have to spend some
time in prison.

Among the things that are new in
the shops this year is the new shaper
that arrived in the machine shop the
other day. This is a Swedish machine
and it was certainly needed. The other
two shapers in this shop are antiques

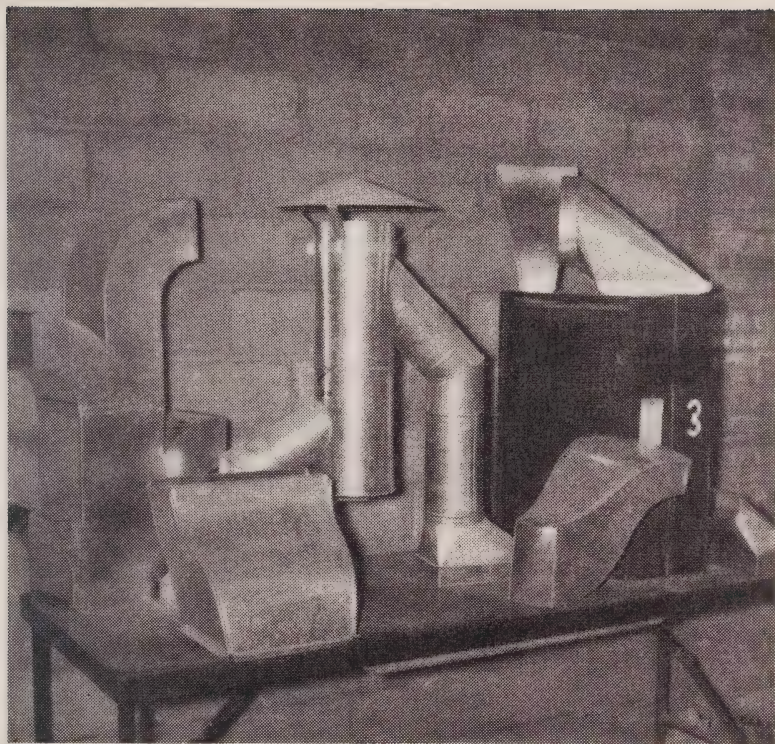


and it required considerable experience on them before the trainees could hope to work to the tolerances of .001" that are common in machine shop work. There are also plans to start a type-writing course this year and the machines are already available. This will not be a full time course and it will therefore be possible to allow more men to take this training. It would be a help to me! The three-finger method I use is too slow for the amount of copy I type.

The biggest news in Vocational

Training this year is the opening of the Welding course and, as they say on the C.B.C. news, "I take you now to Mr. Parks, the instructor, for the full story."

The Welding course this year will be a feeler course with six to eight men on it. As Mr. Parks has no previous institutional experience on which to base his plans he will have to make up his course and notes from scratch. There is no shortage of applicants for this course and I am afraid that there will be many disappointed men this



ar, but Mr. Parks hopes to be able
expand the course in the near future,
s maybe next year fellows.

The equipment in the shop is all new
ad while I do not know much about
Mr. Parks assures me that it is
adequate for the needs of the trainees.
Here is an A.C.-D.C. arc welder, a
motor-generator type D.C. welder, a
eight rectifier D.C. machine and a
manifold distribution system for gas
welding. If the prospective trainees
as good as the equipment, the

course should be a success.

The course will consist of theory
and practical work, as do the other
courses, and Mr. Parks will teach oxy-
acetylene, arc welding and also Argon
Heliarc welding. While he is not defi-
nite, Mr. Parks says that he wants to
get into pipe welding this year too.
For the men who pass this course,
they should be able to hold a good pay-
ing job in industry after their release.
If the men are good enough they should
be able to achieve certification from the

inspector and if they can pass the test here, they will also be able to pass the test required by the industry they will work in outside.

One of the drawbacks here also, is that the men will not be able to get a great deal of practical work around the institution after they finish the course. I believe the tentative plans for these men are that after they have passed the course they will work in the prison Blacksmith shop. All in all though, the Welding course is a welcome and popular addition to the Vocational Training programme here.

While this Vocational Training is a good thing for the men in here it should not be regarded by the outsider as a panacea for the crime problem. Many

men benefit from this training but there are also men who have no aptitude for this type of work and who would be better suited to white-collar or artistic jobs. We have musicians and artists among the population and they would certainly not be happy working as motor mechanics. The idea behind the Vocational Training is very sound but I should like to see the government expand this training to take in more types of occupations.

(The Diamond will carry a series of articles on each Vocational shop, from time to time, and it is the hope of the staff that we can persuade one of the men on each course to write these articles so that the reader may see the course from the viewpoint of the trainee himself.)

HAVE FAITH

If the road of life seems shadowed,
Or dusty, hazy, and queer,
To God above, who has planned it all,
It's perfectly plain and clear.
For they're part of his handiwork;
The patches of black and grey,
And they'll brighten the silver, red, and gold,
Of a future, happier day.
So don't be afraid to ask His help!
Let Him know of your faith and trust.
Then, He'll guidt you
Then He'll lighten the burden you carry;
And guide you along through the dust.
From out of the maze and shadow,
He'll lead you straight to the source
Of a way that is flooded with sunlight,
And set you an easy course.

G. H. N.

AS WE SEE IT

In this column we will attempt to give our opinion on some of the subjects that you and your neighbours may have discussed, so if you find that your opinions coincide with ours—well, DON'T PANIC! Probably the only difference between most of us and you is that we have held an unusual conception of a dollar. Every time we saw a pile of loot we thought it only natural to try and get it without permission or—shudder—labour. The odds being 99-100 we will get caught, well, here we are.

1) The first thing we will pass judgment on is the current Hit Parade, the top 50 records chosen by YOU. The only logical explanation is that the PUBLIC has gone nuts. You must all have too much money as anyone that would part with a buck for these tunes would go for anything.

Anyone out there want to buy a nice little bridge in Brooklyn?

2) LIBERACE: We can't call this *ONE* as we see *IT*. An English newspaper tried to call *IT* as they saw *IT* and *IT* cost them about \$50,000!

3) RADAR TRAPS: Our opinion is that radar traps are used by the city in which you live to provide a nice steady income for use in constructing municipal buildings. For the average Joe in Toronto, we recommend the use of a street car or bus until the subway and the new City Hall are completed. Heard Chief Mackey ordered two dozen more traps this year and opened a police college to train his men in their use.

4) BOOTLEGGERS: We feel that unless the Ontario government breaks down and allows private enterprise (Euphemism for drug store, grocery store, etc.) to sell beer, wine and liquor, the bootlegger is here to stay.

Without the bootlegger about 75% of all weekend parties would be a flop. Just imagine the embarrassment of the host if, at the height of the party, he finds the liquid refreshments are running out. Why, he could lose all his friends. Every good host has the phone number of a reliable bootlegger as it would certainly be a social faux pas if he had to ask one of his guests.

(The above is NOT a paid advertisement for the Temperance Union.)

5) FLOWERS FOR THE QUEEN:

We have noted that the little girls who make the presentation of a bouquet to the Queen upon her arrival at each city are usually the relatives of the Mayor, the reeve, a councillor, or some leading socialite. We think the City of Kingston is to be commended for its choice of children for this honor. It is certainly a big event in any child's life, but think how much it meant to the two orphans, a boy and a girl, who were chosen to represent Kingston. For that matter, it must have been a moral lift for all the kids in the orphanage to have two of their own friends chosen. A tip of the hat to whoever was responsible for the choice.

PRISONER

POTENTIAL

The government has been taking a large amount of your tax dollars and spending it on the rehabilitation of inmates confined to the penitentiary. The idea in theory is very good, but if you don't accept the released inmates the system is a failure and the money wasted.

When an inmate leaves the penitentiary he is entering the final stage of the rehabilitation plan and the average inmate will have approximately \$15.00 to \$20.00 in his pocket and a suit of clothes on his back. With very limited funds, and without the aid and acceptance of society, he is forced back to a life of crime, which in turn, means another penitentiary sentence and more tax money.

Now if you will accept and aid the released inmate by offering employment you are assisting in the final stages of the rehabilitation plan and you will be salvaging a man's way of life as well as saving a tremendous amount in tax dollars.

The following men will be leaving within the next 60 days and DO NOT want to go back to a life of crime. They are asking you for your help in the way of employment.

If you can assist these men in any way, please contact

The Classification Office,

P.O. Box 190,

Kingston, Ontario.

CD-38 MAINTENANCE MACHINIST'S HELPER

Age 21—Single—Education Grade 10—Previous employment, general factory work — Completed course in machine maintenance— Would like this type of work in Kitchener area.

D-41 A STEADY JOB

Age 32—Single—Education Grade 9 Previous employment, 3 years as a truck driver—Presently employed in the machine shop.—Has completed course in same—Would like a steady job in any type of work in the Ottawa area.

D-46 TRUCK DRIVER OR HANDY MAN

Education Grade 8— Married, 4 children— Age 37—Previously employed as truck driver—Would like work as driver or handyman in Toronto area. Comment: This man wants steady work and is dependable.

D-47 HOTEL WAITER

Age 47—Married, 3 children— Previously employer as a beverage room waiter and bartender. (3 years).—Education Grade 10—Would like employment as a hotel waiter in the Kingston area.

Comment: This man is experienced and has taken a course in bartending. Not here, unfortunately, but in London, Ontario.

D-48 AUTO MECHANIC

Age 25—Single—Education Grade 10 Previously employed in automotive parts stock-room.

Would like employment as Auto Mechanic in the Toronto area.

Comment: This man has completed the Auto Mechanics course given by the institution and desire to gain more experience in this field. A willing worker.

THE ALTERNATIVE

by G.H.N. 4898

Johnny wished that he could fall asleep—fall asleep and escape for a time from his drab surroundings and his thoughts running endlessly, tormentingly through his mind. Sleep would shut out the foul smell of his cramped cell and the irritating noises of a crowded jail at night.

He opened his eyes, but closed them again with a shudder after a look at the cracked walls and dirty cement ceiling. How often had he done just that—shuddered at the sight of walls that hemmed him in! There had been many times he recalled; times when the sight of walls such as these had nearly driven him insane. Yes, when he had been in a penitentiary locked up for hours on end, day after day, week after week, he had experienced the same shivering sensation and often he had been as scared of the walls as a victim of claustrophobia.

He thought now of those times and the years he had spent caged up like a beast. They had been monotonous, wasted years—he recalled how every day was the same as the one that had gone before; the regular routine with no variation, the endless hours confined in a small cell unable to sleep, unable to do anything of interest, but must sit as though in a trance, oblivious to the noises around him. They had been lonely years too, he remembered—countless nights he had lain awake wishing he were free; free where he would know a woman's love and some kindness and consideration. It's funny he thought, how lonely one could be

even though he was surrounded by others such as he. They had also, he thought bitterly, been humiliating years—many times he had been goaded to the limit of his patience and seethed helplessly or lost his self-control and been harshly reprimanded, and never once during all that time had he known any privacy. Yes, they had, without a doubt, been terrible years.

A tremour shook him as he recalled the day the huge North gate had opened and he was allowed to go forth a free man. Free! It was a wonderful feeling after being immured for so long. He had been very confident that day, he remembered, confident that he would never return. He recalled how he had looked back at the walls, so grey and evil looking, and vowed to himself, "never again." Yes, he had vowed that he would never re-enter a prison, but the confidence he had felt on that day had been surely though slowly overcome and replaced by a feeling of dejection and bitterness, and now they were going to send him back; back to prison, to the endless days and the all-encompassing walls.

He had tried! Tried to find employment and lead an honest life. He recalled some of the embarrassing interviews he had had. Funny, he thought, how they had all followed much the same pattern—every time there had been the nervous little cough, the shuffling of papers, the eyes unable to meet his gaze, and the concise little speech about "the company's policy" before he was politely but firmly dis-

missed. He thought bitterly of what had happened when he obtained work without revealing his past. The job he had secured, and subsequent others obtained likewise, had all terminated the same way, discovery of his past and abrupt dismissal. Had he been at fault? He wondered.

Johnny reached for a cigarette, lit it, then settled back on the narrow cot. He recalled how he had gone home to live with his parents when he was released. They had helped him all that they could and sympathised with him, but, nevertheless, the atmosphere had been strained. Unable to retain employment for any considerable length of time, he had been irritable and began to feel that he was an added burden to the many they already had. Helpful advice he had taken to be criticism and would leave the house feeling depressed and frustrated. On occasions such as these, he had tried to appease his feelings by drinking, this in turn had led to arguments at home and after one particularly heated argument, he had left thinking that that was the best for all concerned. He had rented a room for himself and from then on everything had slowly gone from bad to worse.

Johnny recalled how trying it had been for him when he lived in a small room he had rented. Most of the time he had been in arrears with his rent, and often he had been hungry. The jobs that he was able to obtain never lasted very long, and what money he did manage to save would quickly be used up during the times he was idle. Then he had met Bob; Bob whom he had known in prison.

That, Johnny realized now, had been the turning point. He had struggled with his conscience, but Bob's persua-

siveness and his own impecunious state and reverted to robbery again. And had been too much. He had weakened now he was being compelled to pay for his weakness. By going back; back to the penitentiary he had learned to hate so much.

Yes, Johnny thought to himself, he had succumbed to the temptation of trying to obtain by force the money he seemed unable to come by honestly. They had planned everything well enough he reflected, but the unexpected had happened, and now they were going to send him back; back to that hell-hole—the prison!

He trembled as he thought of how he had this very morning received his sentence. He had sat in the dock waiting nervously until his name was called, then risen to his feet and looked pathetically at the judge. He had been asked if he had anything to say in his own behalf, and he had tried to explain, as best he could, the circumstances which prompted him to err. His plea had helped him very little and the judge, in a voice full of righteousness, had pronounced sentence upon him, a sentence that to him seemed overly severe.

Yes, thought Johnny, the judge had shown him no mercy. Was he to go through the same torture again? Was he to forever be denied a chance to associate as an equal? Was this to be repeated again and again? Was there to be no respite, no future? Was he now condemned to a life of rejection by his fellow man because of his initial mistake?

There was an alternative. Reaching out he pulled the laces from his shoes and slowly began to fashion a noose. His decision was made—he would not go back after all.

AN INTERVIEW ON PAROLE

By The Editor

I have been asked a lot of questions I was unable to answer about our new parole system. Because the subject is of interest to all inmates and because we know so little about the new system, I thought an interview with Mr. Edwards, the local representative of the Parole Service, would be in order. Here are the results of the interview:

QUESTION: Some of the men serving long sentences have asked me if the rule that they must serve half their term before they are considered eligible for parole is still in effect. Can you give me a definite answer on this?

MR. EDWARDS: At the present time this is still the policy. However, this rule is quite flexible and there are many exceptions to it, but generally speaking, inmates should not expect parole before all their sentence is served. Inmates should be cautioned about the matter of making premature applications, but no inmate is to be denied the privilege of making an application at any time. The National Parole Board is developing policy gradually. In this regard, I feel that the editorial on parole which appeared in your May issue was rather hasty and unfair to the Board. Give the Board a chance to show what it is prepared to do before you commence to criticize. No, I would not hazard a guess as to how long it will be before there may be a change in this rule. This last was in anticipation of the question I intended next.)

QUESTION: Are inmates still required to make an application to the Parole Board and if so, why?

MR. EDWARDS: Inmates are still

definitely required to make an application, for the very obvious reason that the Board wants to know what the man's plans are. The Parole Act provides that the Board shall review the case of every inmate serving a sentence of two years or more, whether or not an application has been made by, or on behalf of the inmate. This means that strictly speaking, he does not have to apply for parole, but the Board is anxious to have an application from him. The inmate should state in his application why he thinks he should get parole and also give a statement of his or her plans for release and also give the answers to the other questions set out in the prescribed application form. The Board relies heavily on reports from the institution, but it also wants to know the intentions of the prospective parolee himself. A man applying for parole should have a definite idea of what he intends to do, where he intends to live, etc. One thing that has surprised me is that such a small percentage of the men I have interviewed have taken the trouble to seek an interview with an After-Care agency, such as the John Howard Society or the Salvation Army, or the National Employment Service, to chat about their future. I think this is necessary if they are to present a sound plan and not just something based on pure imagination.

The National Parole Board believes that all inmates should be briefed as thoroughly as possible about parole early in their sentence. Along this line, I have discussed plans with Warden

Johnstone at Kingston Penitentiary to lecture to each monthly intake of newcomers, giving them an idea of just what is expected of them if they are to measure up to parole standards and to interpret to them the policy of the Board as it applies to them. In this way each newcomer will be given the opportunity to learn something about the workings of the Parole System. At the present time, in only about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the applications received are paroles being granted. The Board hopes this number can be increased, but apart from this, it depends mostly on the inmates themselves. It may be of encouragement to learn that there has been a gradual increase in the number of men on parole in my region since the board came into being. Of course, not all prisoners can expect to be paroled. The primary concern of the Board is the protection of society. Those who take full advantage of their time in the institution to better themselves and who have revealed changed attitudes merit primary consideration. Once again, reports from the institution serve as a guide to the Board in this. (The reporter infers that Mr. Edwards' own report also carries considerable weight with the Board.)

QUESTION: We know that you ask the police and the sentencing judge for a report on the applicant for parole. Many of the inmates feel that this practice works against them and they argue that these people only know them as they were before they came to prison, sometimes many years ago, and therefore they are not in a position to pass along a competent report to the Board. Why is a report from these people necessary?

MR. EDWARDS: The police and the sentencing judge are asked only for a purely factual report concerning the actions of the man at the time of his arrest and his attitude before the court. They are *not* asked to make a recommendation either for or against parole. In any event, the National Parole Board is the sole authority granting parole in every case. The Board seeks information from all sources that have had to deal with the prisoner in order that they have as much background material as possible upon which to base their decisions. The prime function of the Board is to select inmates for parole who appear to have distinct reform possibilities. There is, of course, no exact science as to how we are able to determine if a person will reform. It is necessarily a matter of judgment. The judgment is based on various reports which the Board receives on the individual, *with special bearing on his behaviour and progress in the institution itself.* The Board receives these reports from many sources, *but some of the most significant are those describing what the inmate has accomplished during imprisonment.* Any hint of influence being brought upon the Board in any way, is frowned upon and may, in the end backfire. It is not necessary for any inmate to retain the services of a lawyer, for example, to present his case to the Board. I mention this only because certain inmates have raised the question during individual interviews with them.

QUESTION: How long should it take after an inmate makes his application before he receives an answer?

MR. EDWARDS: This varies with the individual inmate and the time co-

sumed in completing an investigation. The average case may take anywhere from one and one-half to two months before a decision is rendered, but it is never safe to talk in terms of weeks or months. A man whose case is being considered with parole in view may not hear as rapidly as one whose parole may be refused, for the simple reason that plans for the prospective parolee must be developed carefully in the community to which he is returning and this is of a necessity time-consuming. In all cases, the speed with which a decision can be rendered depends on the receipt of reports and the validity of such reports. No case is treated lightly or hurriedly.

QUESTION: Some men feel that when they have an application for parole pending and they are taking a Vocational course, the reply is slow in coming because you, that is the Board, feel that the man should complete the trade course before he is released. Does this sometimes happen?

MR. EDWARDS: There is no rule concerning release of men on parole who are engaged in Vocational Training. Each case is considered on its individual merits. There are, naturally, cases where the Board, or the institution may feel that the completed trade would be of more benefit to a man than a release before he has completed the course. But you have undoubtedly known some men who were released while still on course. Primarily, the Board is interested in knowing what use a man has made of his time in the institution for self-betterment. If, for instance, a trade is learned or education furthered, this is indicative of a good attitude. On the other hand, failure to

do so is not necessarily fatal to favourable parole consideration. The Board has to take into account both institutional facilities and the potential of each individual in considering what the inmate has done to better himself.

That is the end of the interview. The remarks attributed to Mr. Edwards are not a verbatim account of the interview but this copy was submitted to him for approval.

From additional conversation I have gathered an impression that the National Parole Board is going to be very progressive in its programme. The chairman, Mr. Street, was known to do some rather unusual things as a magistrate and if he carries on in an experimental vein we can expect a good parole system. As long as the members of the Board do not try to "play it safe" and are willing to look at a new idea with an open mind there is a chance the Canada will at last come up with a good parole system. Public relations is not the least important part of a good parole programme and I was glad to note that the various members of the Board have been making speeches at conventions around the country. It is going to take time to work out all the details of the system so all we can do is "Wait and Hope."

One other point that bothers most inmates is the practice of soliciting reports from judges and police. It has been suggested that I am merely justifying my existence as editor when I stress this point, but it is a fact that the inmates feel keenly that this practice is unfair to many of them. A man may have made a bad impression on the arresting officers because he refused to co-operate with them (i.e.: He

would not tell them who was with him or he preferred not to plead guilty and therefore made their job harder.) The same could be true at his trial. Having a natural desire to be acquitted, he may have caused the trial judge to meet with some extra problems and he may even have had the temerity to appeal the judge's decision. Under circumstances such as these the police

and the judge could not be expected to make a favourable report on the man.

Well, there it is. I think there is some information here for anyone interested in parole, and most of us in Collin's Bay are. Look it over carefully fellows and make your plans realistically if you want to shorten the bit a little.



A CAMERA VISITS COLLIN'S BAY

In the middle of July I was besieged by inmates asking me who the guys walking around the institution taking pictures and asking questions were. The man with the camera was a Mr. Harrison and the man asking the questions was Mr. McClean. Isn't that a big help?

There is always a flurry of excitement when outsiders with a camera tour this institution. Some of the inmates are anxious to duck out of camera range and then there are some who struggle to get in front of the lens (showing their best profile, of course.) Everybody wants to know who the outsiders are and many inmates without a clue will pass out answers. I felt the Diamond should know what it was all about so I asked Mr. Smith, who was showing the Visitors around. He arranged for me to meet them the next day.

So, after all this excitement it turns out that Mr. McClean and Mr. Harrison are from the Public Relations branch of the Department of Justice. They are just winding up an assignment that has taken them to every federal prison in Canada for the purpose of compiling information and photographs for use by the department. This information will be made available to magazines, newspapers, etc. Naturally, I asked if it would be possible for the Diamond to receive a copy of the photos taken in this institution. The answer was that a copy of the photos would be sent to the Warden for his disposition.

So that is what all the fuss was about, men. The Department of Justice now has a file on Collin's Bay for quick reference and it is available to the public

BAND STAND

by D. B.

After spending two pleasurable hours listening to selections from the thirteen new long play records donated the past month, I can report that there is enjoyment here for everybody. Radio station CKEY, Toronto, is one cause for this enjoyment as their gift of eight LP's feature popular vocal groups and singers, religious songs, jazz groups and organ stylings. Here is a list of these LP's with the tunes on each:

Remember When:—The Platters, perhaps the most popular vocal group on the scene, takes the older set back, and brings the youngsters up to date, with their rhythm-n'-bluesish renditions of Prisoner of Love, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes, Somebody Loves Me, If I Didn't Care, Thanks For The Memory, A Tisket A Tasket, Love In Bloom, I'll Never Smile Again, I Can't Get Started, My Blue Heaven, Until The Real Thing Comes Along, Remember When.

Pat Boone Sings:—And nicely, too, on twelve best selling tunes, which Boone has done up in his usual manner. Wonderful Time Up There, If Dreams Came True, For My Good Fortune, When The Swallows Come Back To Capistrano, Sugar Moon, It's Too Soon To Know, The Mardi Gras March, I'll Remember Tonight.

The Young Frankie Avalon:—Backed by a fine studio band, young talented, (plays a trumpet too) Frankie scores big on this, his second album. Includes such favourites as: Pretty Baby, I Can't Begin To Tell You, Undecided, Hold Me, The One I Love, Into Each

Life Some Rain Must Fall, and newer hits: Too Young To Love, Fever, Hallelujah, I Love Her So, Teach Me Tonight, Shy Guy. His fine trumpet is heard on Bella del Mondo.

Whispering Hope:—Songs of faith sung in a very warm hearted manner by Bonne Guitar. Accompanied by bass and another guitar she sings: The Sweet Bye And Bye, Bringing In The Sheaves, Softly And Tenderly, Peace In The Valley, In The Garden, Lord, I Want To Find My Way, Whispering Hope, Let The Lower Lights Be Burning, The Old Rugged Cross, Just A Closer While With Thee, Rock Of Ages and God's Tomorrow.

Bo Diddley:—Possessor of probably the loudest voice and guitar sound ever captured on record, Big Bo sings mightily through all of the twelve tunes. Bo Diddley, I'm A Man, Bring It To Jerome, Before You Accuse Me, Hey Bo Diddley, Dearest Darling, Hush Your Mouth, Say Bossman, Diddley Daddy, Diddley Wah Diddley, Who Do You Love, and Pretty Thing. All except Pretty Thing are Bo Diddley composed originals.

Lenny Dee-Organ Solos With A Beats:—This fine musician manages to swing the usually cumbersome sounding organ lightly through a variety of standards Delicious, Fan Tango, Stompin' At The Savoy, Diane, Honky Honk Train Blues, Alabamy Bound, Tarrango, At Sundown, Jersey Bounce, Hawaiian War Chant, What Is This Thing Called Love, Toot Toot Tootsie Goodbye.

Billy Taylor At The London House:—

Recorded in person at Chicago's jammed London House, the piano of jazz star Billy Taylor and his Trio provide some exciting moments on this LP. The group obviously enjoys playing together as they are a joy to hear on London House, Midnight Piano, Gone With The Wind, I Cover The Waterfront, Stella By Starlight, The Two Ballads, It Might As Well Be Spring and Love Is Here To Stay are both beautifully handled.

Ruby Braff:—Heading a quintet of veteran jazz musicians the New Orleans styled trumpet of Braff is always pleasing and for this LP. which I think is one of his first, his choice of materials is excellent. The quintet swings through: Dancing In The Dark, Why Was I Born, If I Could Be With You, I'm Crazy 'Bout My Baby, Almost Like Being In Love, Lover Come Back To Me, Louisiana, and they show nice ballad feeling on: Blue Prelude, Blue And Brokenhearted, I Must Have That Man.

Many, many thanks to CKEY for these fine LP's and also for their generous contributions to our musical pleasure in the past. The kind thoughtfulness shown in our behalf is deeply appreciated.

Modern jazz fans here are certainly afforded new listening experiences in four of the five LP's donated by 5276. The other LP, by humorist Lenny Bruce, offers some rather new experiences also, which we will discuss after a look at the four jazz sides.

Blues For Dracula:—Drummer Philly Joe Jones displays not only his fine ability in leading this modern jazz sextet through five hard swinging tunes but shows a fine talent for impersona-

tion as well. His imitation of Count Dracula on the title tune, Blues For Dracula, is really humorous. The rest of the LP, Trick Street, Fiesta, Tne-Up, Ow! (that's the name of the tune) is solely devoted to top, free swingin' blowing by all musicians involved. *Somethin' Else*:—Five tunes, Autumn Leaves, Love For Sale, Dancing In The Dark, played by a quartet led by alto saxaphonist "Cannonball" Adderly and featuring the trumpet of Miles Davis. For truly great listening pleasure dig their treatment of Autumn Leaves and Love For Sale. And altoist Adderly alone on Dancing In The Dark is indeed Somethin' Else.

Soultrane:—John Coltrane's soulful tenor saxophone is heard to good advantage here on five seldom done jazz pieces: Good Bait, I Want To Talk About You, You Say You Care, Theme For Ernie, and Russian Lullaby. His warm, fluid tone and brilliant tone style command your whole attention throughout. As the jacket states, "I'm sure this (Russian) lullaby would keep Nikita awake and swinging all night." *Sonny Side Up*:—Three jazz 'giants,' trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and tenor saxists Sonny Rollins and Sonny Stitt, combine to make this one a collector's item. With the two tenors waging battle and Dizzy in the fight, booted along by a swinging rhythm section, man, like this scene is the end. The tunes are: Eternal Triangle, After Hours (a blues if there ever was one), I know that you know

I Know That You Know, and Sunny Side Of The Street, with Dizzy singing some new lyrics.

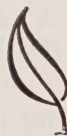
As for the LP by comedian Lenny Bruce, "The Sick Humor of Lenny

Bruce," there is no doubt in my mind that this cat is indeed an example of something new in our society. He is the comedy of dissent, violating all the taboos out loud and saying things that could earn him a bashed scone at some parties. But like this guy is no poser, he comes on with the things everybody wishes they could say. His satire of conversation between the big three in American politics in "Ike, Sherm and Nick" is hilarious. Typical of his comments is one from "Non Skeddo Flies Again" when, after describing a recent case where a man was sent to the gas chamber after being found guilty of planting a bomb in an airplane which exploded, killing fifty people, Bruce states: "The American public is losing its sense of humor." Still another bit, "Religions Inc.," brought the house down with his parody of the tent-show religious carnival leaders at

a top executive meeting on Madison Avenue. "Psychopathia Sexualis" is the tale of his skit on poetry set to jazz and describes the frustrations of his marriage to a horse. The other two bits are "Hitler & the M. C. A." and "The Kid in the Well" and the listener will find them just as sick and funny. Humor for broad-minded people, or maybe for sick people. It went over big in here.

Special thanks to Radio Station C.K.W.S. in Kingston for their fine gift of over one hundred and fifty single records from their library. A most welcome addition to our collection as they covered the music field from Rock 'n' Roll to the classics. And thanks too, to Stewart for the six "Rock" records that he donated.

That wraps it up for this month, but if we get some new platters before the next issue of the Diamond, I will be back with another column.



ARABIAN CRIMINALS BEING CODDLED!

Saudi Arabia has banned the practice of punishing convicted thieves by chopping off their hands with a sword. Much too barbaric — in the future a surgeon will take the hands off with a scalpel.

However, it is the women who are really getting the benefit of the new "go soft" deal the Arabian government is instituting. Used to be that women convicted of adultery were stoned to death, but now they are let off with only a bullet in the head. Maybe they ran out of stones.

The government is also having trouble with inflation. In 1956 the prices for slaves were about \$500 for a man and \$1200 for a girl. Nowadays the prices vary from \$12,000 to \$100,000. For a hundred G's I'd expect Brigitte Bardot and her sister!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I have not received the C.B. Diamond since the first week in May. Would you kindly send it regular.

Mrs. Dave Hall,
Stratford, Ontario.

(Ed: Mrs. Hall's letter is one of many complaints we have received regarding our rather haphazard publishing. I cannot deny that we are crooks but it was really not our intention to defraud our subscribers. The staff of the magazine has undergone one of its frequent changes and the resulting confusion has put us behind in our schedule. We offer our apologies and promise that we will try not to let it happen again.
Gentlemen:

I have enjoyed very much the reading of your magazine, the Diamond.

I particularly enjoyed M. A. Gilson's poem, "A Son's Prayer for His Daddy in Prison."

I am sending you \$1.00 for further subscription.

Yours Truly,
Mrs. C. Lowry,
Vancouver, B.C.

(Ed: Gentlemen yet. Thank you, Mrs. Lowry, both for your continued support and for the nice name you called us. We get called so many other names.)

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the tolerant comment in your editorial "Corporal Punishment To Be Abolished," in reference the Canadian Press article quoting me on the abolition of corporal punishment.

My views on this subject and also on capital punishment are well known throughout Canada. I am forwarding to you a copy of the statement I made to the Parliamentary Committee on Corporal and Capital Punishment, dated May 19th, 1954.

My views have not changed since that time though perhaps I could now produce even better arguments in favour of abolition.

Yours very sincerely,
A. M. Kirkpatrick,
Executive Director,
John Howard Society of Ontario

(Ed: The thanks of all the inmates go to you and the John Howard Society for your efforts on our behalf sir.)

In answer to a letter sent by Mr. R. G. Baker: I must agree with you sir. The title *Alphabetic Thoughts* is no longer appropriate. We do not intend to carry these essays any longer as we intend to publish more original material than our predecessors did. We are always glad to have our readers contribute articles that deal with prisons or prisoners and we would like to thank you for your help in the past